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Report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-seventh session the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, which covers the period from 1997 to 1998.

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I. Introduction

1. The United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) was established in 1963 with a mandate "to conduct research into problems and policies of social development and relationships between various types of social development and economic development during different phases of economic growth". Since the 1960s, the objectives, approach and scope of UNRISD work have evolved. Early work of the Institute focused on improving social statistics and exploring the relationship between social and economic development, in particular the assumption that social development flowed automatically from economic growth and modernization.

2. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, UNRISD adopted a broader concept of social development, to embrace not only traditional social policy and planning concerns such as health, education and social statistics, but also issues related to inequality, discrimination, social movements and participation. The Institute sought to promote a more holistic and multidisciplinary approach to social development research that emphasized the nature of society's decision-making processes, its often conflicting social forces and the question of who wins and who loses in processes of economic and social change. These issues were very much at the forefront of the major UNRISD programmes of that time, dealing with the social effects of the Green Revolution, the role of cooperatives in development, refugees, popular participation and problems of food security.

3. Since the late 1980s, both the scope and objectives of UNRISD work have broadened considerably. By 1993, the number of programmes had doubled and approximately 70 countries were the focus of UNRISD research. While the Institute's main objectives have continued to be the promotion of cross-country comparative research on critical problems and issues of social development, UNRISD has diversified its role in response to the changing demands and opportunities of the 1990s.

4. The Institute has become more involved in applied research, responding directly to the concerns of policy makers and the international development community. Thus UNRISD places considerable emphasis on the need to bring together a diverse range of social and political actors in discussion on key social development issues. Through workshops, seminars and conferences, the Institute promotes dialogue among policy makers, donors, scholars, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and grass-roots activists.

5. This focus has led the Institute to support the world conferences on development issues that have taken place in Rio de Janeiro, Copenhagen, Beijing and Istanbul in recent years. The Institute also collaborates on a more regular basis with other United Nations agencies by preparing special reports, participating in high-level advisory groups and undertaking joint research programmes. Similar advisory work is carried out with a range of other multilateral and bilateral organizations, Governments, NGOs, research institutes and universities. A list of recent consultancy and advisory activities is provided in the following pages.

6. The present report covers the activities of UNRISD in 1997 and 1998. It is submitted to the Commission for Social Development in accordance with the terms of reference set out in the Secretary-General's bulletin (ST/SGB/126, 1 August 1963), in which it is stipulated that the Board of the Institute should, *inter alia*, submit regularly to the Commission "a progress report on the work of the Institute".

7. The period 1997–1998 has been one of transition for the Institute. First, there has been a change of Director. After ten years of service, Dharam Ghai retired in December 1997. The new Director, Thandika Mkandawire, was appointed by the Secretary-General on 24 December 1997 and took up his post on 1 May 1998. Secondly, the Institute has developed a major new research programme over the past two years. By late 1996, a number of research projects undertaken during preceding years were coming to a close. While continuing to edit and publish the large volume of discussion papers, articles and books produced by these projects, the Institute began to consider future initiatives and to define specific areas in which UNRISD could make a useful contribution during the coming years.

8. The biennium 1997–1998 saw the launching of major research programmes on Information Technologies and Social Development; Gender, Poverty and Well-being; Business Responsibility for Sustainable Development; Public Sector Reform and Crisis-Ridden States; and Emerging National and Regional Mass Tourism in Developing Countries. At the request of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), UNRISD also set up a programme on Grass-roots Initiatives and Knowledge Networks for Land Reform in Developing Countries. And at the request of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Institute has conducted applied research on the Gender Focal Point System of that organization. Furthermore, as part of its general effort to strengthen a rights-based perspective on development, UNRISD has sponsored a series of conferences and papers within an area entitled Globalization and Citizenship.

9. At the same time, the Institute has continued to support the follow-up activities to the World Summit for Social Development. In part this has occurred through contributions by staff members to meetings and discussions sponsored by various NGOs, agencies and Governments. In July 1997, UNRISD itself sponsored a large public conference, Advancing the Social Agenda: Two Years after Copenhagen, held to coincide with the meetings of the Economic and Social Council at Geneva. Seven other international meetings were sponsored by the Institute over the period 1997–1998, as well as over a dozen smaller workshops and seminars.

10. The most significant development in the area of dissemination has no doubt been the redesign and improvement of the UNRISD Web site (http://www.unrisd.org). UNRISD ON-LINE now contains 73 publications, reproduced in their entirety, as well as summary information on all research programmes, conference highlights and newsletters. During the biennium 1997–1998, 14 books were co-published with academic or commercial presses and three monographs were printed by UNRISD. In addition, the Institute published 17 Discussion Papers and eight Occasional Papers. The UNRISD report for the World Summit for Social Development (States of Disarray: The Social Effects of Globalization), originally published in English, Spanish and French, was translated into Arabic, Chinese, Korean and Russian.

11. More information on all UNRISD activities will be found below. The report begins with an overview of progress in developing the new research programme of the Institute.

II. New research programme

A. Globalization and Citizenship

12. In 1995, the UNRISD report for the World Summit for Social Development, States of Disarray: The Social Effects of Globalization, closed with a question that mirrored the concerns of a growing number of people around the world: can the stark polarizing trends of the past few decades be offset by new approaches that reaffirm the basic civil, political and socio-economic rights of every human being?

13. This concern has grown still stronger since the Summit. Over the past few years, a new "rights-based" approach to development issues has gathered strength, as large numbers of people affected by economic restructuring or by discrimination of various kinds demand full recognition of their dignity and human worth. The Secretary-General of the United Nations has recently reinforced this trend by requesting that a human rights perspective be incorporated into all programme activities of United Nations organizations. The definition and protection of socio-economic rights, in addition to basic civil and political rights, has assumed increasing importance in this agenda.

14. During the biennium 1997–1998, the UNRISD programme on Globalization and Citizenship has attempted to strengthen a rights-based perspective on development in a number of ways. In the first place, it has provided an opportunity to analyse the process of rapid social and economic change, now usually subsumed under the general heading of globalization, that not only creates new options for many people, but also forms the backdrop for growing polarization and exclusion at the end of the twentieth century. In the second place, it has gone beyond the discourse on human rights per se, to frame the challenge of defining and protecting these rights in terms of the construction and defence of citizenship. Bringing the concept of citizenship to bear on the struggle for rights (at local, national, regional and global levels) can sharpen awareness of the institutional and political aspects of any viable rights regime. In the current struggle to protect the basic dignity of each human being, the challenge is not only to proclaim rights but also to create the kind of political community and the structure of efficient and legitimate institutions that can guarantee them. And the maintenance of such a community, with its attendant institutions and values, is the stuff of citizenship.

15. Work at UNRISD on the relationship between globalization and citizenship began with the organization of two conferences, the first held in Geneva in December 1996 and the second in Melbourne, Australia, in May 1997. Emphasis was placed at the Geneva meeting on macro-theoretical and conceptual issues, summarized in a conference report distributed during the fall of 1997.[1] Conversations in Melbourne focused more specifically on the relationship between globalization and the creation or protection of citizenship rights in the Asia-Pacific region.

16. Selected papers from the Geneva conference will be published in the journal *Citizenship Studies* and contributions to the Melbourne seminar will be published in book form during 1999.[2] In addition, a number of papers from the Geneva conference have been translated into Spanish for inclusion in a book on globalization and human rights that will be oriented towards a Latin American audience. Special essays for the Latin American collection will focus on economic liberalization and social protection in that region, as well as on the rights of children and

adolescents. The volume will be co-published with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

17. Following the Melbourne conference, researchers and activists from the Asia-Pacific region also agreed to prepare a series of monographs on citizenship debates in various countries of that region. These look particularly at the interrelationship between economic, social and cultural aspects of globalization, on the one hand, and both traditional and modern forms of solidarity and identity, on the other.

B. Information Technologies and Social Development

18. At a time when the world confronts immense social problems, many hopes for progress are grounded in the development potential of new information technologies. But technical breakthroughs in themselves are not a sufficient condition for improving the lives of most people in Third World countries. In fact, unless the conditions are created for relatively more disadvantaged groups to use information technologies constructively, the digital revolution may well accelerate an already alarming process of polarization and exclusion.

19. What will it take, in terms of social, economic, political and institutional innovation, to create a setting in which these technologies can be used to improve the conditions of less advantaged groups in the developing world? What are the basic elements for promoting an inclusive information society, rather than a world of information "haves" and "have nots"? The UNRISD programme on Information Technologies and Social Development is designed to provide a forum for exploring these questions, through a combination of approaches ranging from grass-roots social research in Third World villages and urban neighbourhoods, to national and international policy debates.

20. Work within the programme began in early 1997. Since then, Institute staff have established ties with a number of institutions and individuals concerned with the social implications of the digital revolution and have carried out a broad-ranging dialogue with many others through the Internet. The project Web site (http://www.unrisd.org/infotech) now contains links to a large collection of studies on the relationship between information technologies and social development in the Third World; information about relevant conferences and electronic discussion groups; and news about the project and its activities. Moreover, the Institute has been represented in both virtual and actual debates on the social implications of the digital future, through presentations at TELECOM Inter@active, the Geneva chapter of the Internet Society, and the Asia Internet Forum.[3] A short article discussing some of the key information technology issues in developing countries has been published in the international journal of the Internet Society.[4]

21. The first major contribution of the programme to the international debate on information technologies and social development took the form of a conference, held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva on 22 and 23 June 1998. With support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Government of Sweden, the Institute hosted a gathering of 200 people, representing many interests and points of view: academics, local activists, representatives of development NGOs, multilateral and bilateral agencies, telecommunications and computer specialists and the media.

22. The conference began with a broad-ranging consideration of the pervasive social and economic shifts that seem to accompany the dawning of the global "information age". Then discussion shifted to analysis of concrete cases in which public policy has been applied to the task of developing national information strategies in Third World and transitional settings. The ways chosen by South Africa and Malaysia to integrate information technologies into their development strategies received particular attention. At the close of the first day, participants explored some of the key international policy issues affecting the likelihood that the new technologies can be used creatively to improve the lot of the disadvantaged. Examples of issues needing attention include accords to fix limits on the use of scarce physical resources (such as radio frequencies), determine the nature of satellite access and create binding obligations in trade and financial matters, negotiated in such strategic multilateral institutions as the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Policy options in the field of information technology are also quite frequently circumscribed in various ways by agreements reached between borrowers and both the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

23. The second day of the meeting focused on specific attempts to use information technologies in ways that improve livelihood and defend human rights in developing or transitional countries. The Grameen Bank initiative to provide rural women with mobile telephones, as well as the establishment of telecentres in rural Mexico and urban South Africa, provided useful case study material. Conference participants with experience in other types of programmes

and in other countries enriched the discussion and helped draw attention to elements of public policy, project organization and community commitment that favour some degree of success or render progress impossible. They also noted technical and economic factors that seem central to success or failure. Among other things, insights gained during this session contributed to a broader understanding of the institutional arrangements that facilitate the design and implementation of effective local programmes for disadvantaged groups.

24. A final session of the conference was dedicated to exploring the relationship between new information technologies, democratization and the defence of human rights. To focus the discussion, participants heard a presentation on the role of the Internet in promoting democracy in Russia, followed by a comparative analysis of the uses of information technologies in strengthening civil society in Brazil and Viet Nam.

25. A number of basic questions were considered during this session. What are the conditions under which the new technologies become effective tools for empowerment of various groups? How do grass-roots networks gain access to new information infrastructures and how do they learn to use them? How do these new tools supplement more traditional forms of communication (radio, telephone, television)? What technical adaptations increase the likelihood that relatively marginalized sectors of society can make their voices heard? What regulatory issues seem to have a particularly direct bearing on the role of electronic networking in processes of democratization and the defence of human rights?

26. The event closed with a general discussion on issues raised during the previous two days and on possible directions for future research. The conference was filmed and the resulting video is available on the UNRISD Web site. Conference papers are also being placed on line. A report on the meeting is being prepared for presentation both on the Web site and as an UNRISD conference report.

C. Gender, Poverty and Well-being

27. This project is being undertaken at a time when the concern for poverty reduction has made a reappearance on the international development agenda. As many observers have argued, the "new poverty consensus", with its twin-track strategy of labour-intensive growth plus improved social services, offers a powerful and potentially flexible route to poverty reduction. But there are several important gaps in this new consensus, among them a failure to deal adequately with gender bias and to understand the differences between men's and women's poverty trajectories. The UNRISD programme on Gender and Poverty, which began in 1997, should address these gaps, in an attempt to improve both the analytical rigour and the empirical basis for dealing with gender issues within poverty-oriented policies and programmes.

28. During the first year of the project, UNRISD commissioned both thematic review papers and country-specific case studies on different aspects of the gender/poverty nexus. These papers were presented at an international workshop jointly organized by UNRISD and the Centre for Development Studies in Trivandrum, India, from 24 to 27 November 1997. Selected findings of the papers and the workshop discussions are summarized below.

29. **Indicators of well-being.** First, it seems necessary to question the widely-shared premise of universal, cross-cultural and a historical female disadvantage as well as to guard against the propensity to overlook areas of male disadvantage. The meagre evidence from households does not always show that boys and men have a favourable nutritional status. Even in north-western India, for example, village-level studies show some groups of adult men to be at greater risk of illness or low working ability than their wives because of thinness ("wasting"), while their wives are at risk of low reproductive ability because of inadequate nutrition during childhood ("stunting").[5] Age and gender interact in complex ways, and understanding gendered disadvantage is dependent on having a dynamic perspective over the life cycles of men and women.

30. Another problem, methodological in nature, relates to the difficulties of using ungendered standards, in nutrition, anthropometry and health, for the measurement and interpretation of gender bias. Nowhere is this problem more visible than in attempts to compare women's and men's capacity for doing physically arduous work and its connections to ill- and well-being.[6]

31. After reviewing more than 20 different indicators of well-being — their availability, measurability and interpretability — one of the review papers[7] concluded that the ratio of surviving girls to boys in the age categories of 0–4 and 5–9 years is probably the most reliable indicator of gender differentials in health and well-being. A controversial conclusion to emerge from the paper is that nutritional indicators, whether of food intake or anthropometric outcome, are not reliable for assessing gender differentials in well-being due to difficulties in fixing norms and cut-off points, the skill requirements for the enumerators and the time-consuming and expensive nature of the surveys.

32. A general conclusion to emerge from the workshop was that even the most gender-sensitive indicators of well-being, which may be useful for revealing bias, disclose nothing about their social meanings or about the social processes giving rise to gender differentials. Qualitative evidence is essential for understanding the social mechanisms contributing to poverty and destitution and for designing policies that may be able to address those problems. But there are serious difficulties in bringing qualitative insights into mainstream policy analysis, which is primarily quantitative, as the critical review of the World Bank's Poverty Assessments shows.[8]

33. **Gender, land reform and micro-credit.** Discussion on women and land reform focused on the inevitable tensions between policy imperatives to show results quickly, on the one hand, and intractable social problems that defy quick fixes on the other. Approaches to poverty that emphasize the transfer of assets to the poor, as if assets are gender-neutral, generally fail to recognize that women may have a different relationship to property than men. Women in different concrete situations are likely to have different strategies for capital accumulation; and in view of the male-dominated nature of agricultural markets and institutions, it may be important for advocacy groups to think not only of strengthening women's access to land but also of alternative strategies for bolstering women's assets.

34. Similarly, it is important to problematize the conventional wisdom on micro-credit, which sometimes implies that this is a "cure-all" for global poverty. In fact, micro-credit may not be the most appropriate livelihood strategy for women who are assetless and poor (as opposed to better-off women), given their lack of access to complementary resources such as capital, land, information and marketing. Micro-level evidence also shows that a significant proportion of women from poor, assetless households are reluctant to borrow. For better-off women there is evidence that micro-credit programmes have had positive material as well as gender-transformative implications. But even here the outcomes are contradictory: the pressures of regular (weekly) repayment of loans have generated considerable stress and strain on relationships between women borrowers (who are responsible for repayments) and their husbands (who sometimes control the loans), among the women borrowers who form women's groups, as well as between women borrowers and programme officials responsible for collecting the weekly payments.

35. Five of the commissioned studies on Gender and Poverty have been published as UNRISD Discussion Papers.[9] An edited collection, which brings together 11 of the commissioned papers and an overview chapter, is also being prepared for publication. In addition, an analytical report on the workshop is being written.

36. By the end of 1998, proposals for field research were being considered and research sites discussed. Country-level research should begin in early to mid-1999.

D. Business Responsibility for Sustainable Development

37. Since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, when a group of transnational corporations played an active role in shaping Agenda 21, big business has associated itself ever more closely with the goal of promoting sustainable development. Many corporations have also encouraged a shift away from governmental regulation to "self-regulation" as a means of encouraging corporate environmental and social responsibility. However, there is considerable debate as to whether more "eco-efficient" resource management systems and self-regulation are contributing in any meaningful way to sustainable development, particularly in developing countries.

38. This programme of research and policy-dialogue, initiated in January 1997, seeks to (a) examine the role of big business in promoting environmental protection and social development; (b) assess the claims of large corporations that they are actively promoting sustainable development; and (c) identify the types of policy and political contexts that favour corporate environmental and social responsibility.

39. In September 1997, UNRISD and the Universidad Nacional in Costa Rica co-hosted an international workshop on business responsibility for environmental protection in developing countries. The four-day meeting brought together scholars, NGOs, international agency officials and business association representatives to examine the "greening of business" in developing countries.

40. The workshop opened with a session in which different stakeholders presented their perspectives on the potential and limits of corporate environmentalism. This was followed by a session on the political and policy backdrop to corporate environmentalism. Attention was focused on the respective roles of government regulation, "civil compliance" and corporate self-regulation; the roles that pressure groups and environmental and consumer activism have played in the greening of business; and the apparent shift from "confrontation" to "partnership" that has characterized business/NGO relationships in certain

countries. The workshop also considered the experience of corporate environmentalism in specific developing countries, focusing particular attention on the experience of Costa Rica. A final session identified key issues and relevant methodologies for future research in developing countries.

41. A report on the meeting is available from UNRISD in hard copy and can also be found on the Institute Web site. Workshop papers will be published in late 1998 in an edited volume, provisionally entitled Business Responsibility and Environmental Protection in the South. An abridged version in Spanish is also being prepared. In addition, funding is currently being sought for a set of country case studies that will examine the potential and limits of corporate environmentalism in greater depth.

E. Public Sector Reform and Crisis-Ridden States

42. This project examines key reforms in the public sectors of countries that have been affected by long-running economic crises and political instability. It focuses on issues of macroeconomic governance; aid dependence and State capacity; livelihood strategies and public administration; fiscal and political decentralization; interest groups and policy-making; and power sharing as an approach to the distribution and management of State power.

43. During 1998, 10 papers have been commissioned within the programme. They are divided into two groups, as outlined below.

44. The first group of five studies focuses on socio-economic issues of reform. One provides an overview and critique of new public management theory; three examine the roles of bilateral aid agencies in supporting public sector reforms in crisis States; and another focuses on the policy initiatives of the World Bank and UNDP. The papers on the bilateral agencies involve analysis of British, Canadian and Scandinavian aid programmes as they relate to macroeconomic governance and State capacity in recipient States. Each examines three broad issues: the effects of aid on macroeconomic imbalances; the changing structures of incentives in recipient bureaucracies; and the problems of aid coordination and administrative workload. These papers will provide an opportunity to understand how different aid agencies are coping with the impacts of their programmes on the public sectors of crisis-ridden States. It should be noted that aid dependency — measured in terms of aid flows in relation to gross domestic product, or aid flows in relation to export earnings — is extraordinarily high in the countries that this project seeks to study.

45. The second group of studies commissioned to inaugurate the project also consists of five papers, and deals with the socio-political aspects of public sector reform. The first two papers address the effects of economic liberalization and democratization on ongoing programmes of political and administrative decentralization and the potential and limitations of fiscal decentralization. The third looks at new approaches to the distribution and management of governmental power, or power sharing; the fourth examines recent trends in political plurality in the legislative and executive organs of crisis States that are in transition to democracy; and the fifth discusses interest groups and the policy-making process. These papers should be available in late 1998.

46. In addition, the project coordinator has prepared an empirical paper on the current state of political reforms in African countries.[10] The paper provides a critical review of a large body of literature on democratization and examines in detail five main elements that have underpinned the processes of political reforms in African countries: constitutionality; the nature of political plurality in the legislative and executive arms of the state; trends in electoral reforms; decentralization; and power sharing. The paper stresses the need to analyse concrete political processes, rather than relying on broad discussion of the socio-economic preconditions for democracy in the region. In fact, differences among countries in levels of industrialization, types of State formation, methods of public administration and the development of modern social classes have not been significant determinants of real patterns of political change. Democratization has been the outgrowth of political phenomena — a function of the strength of opposition parties and groups in society, often in alliance with donor powers, to force incumbent Governments to honour basic rules of political contestation and uphold the rule of law.

F. Grass-roots Initiatives and Knowledge Networks for Land Reform in Developing Countries

47. This programme began in April 1997, with the partial financial support and collaboration of IFAD. It seeks to identify and document activities of various civil society organizations involved in promoting land reform or improving land tenure arrangements to the benefit of the poorer and weaker sections of the rural population in different socio-economic, political and ecological contexts.

The objective of the programme is not only to discover who is doing what, but also to examine more carefully a variety of land reform/tenurial security experiences, to learn how local groups have been able to assert their interests more effectively and to suggest ways in which this knowledge could be disseminated and utilized through effective networking. During the past year, five sets of activities have been carried out.

48. **Establishment of a knowledge network.** To facilitate the exchange of promising ideas and experiences, UNRISD helped IFAD to establish a knowledge network on land reform with seven regional components: South-East Asia/the Pacific; South Asia; Near East/the Maghreb; Southern Africa; West/Central Africa; Central America/the Caribbean; and South America. This effort dovetailed with the creation of national networks in 23 countries where land reform is an acute socio-economic and political issue.

49. **Generation of information on civil society initiatives.** In April 1997, UNRISD sent out a questionnaire requesting information on popular initiatives and project experiences in the field of land reform and tenurial improvement. The questionnaire was distributed to 1,559 peasant associations, rural development organizations, research institutes, NGOs and government bodies. Many of those responding to the questionnaire expressed their interest in the project and provided useful material. Although the area in which they often work is awareness-raising, civil society organizations have undertaken more challenging tasks such as identifying the beneficiaries of land redistribution measures, finding land for sale, providing legal aid, promoting the rights of indigenous people and women, launching rural credit and savings schemes, organizing communities to practise sustainable land use management, and establishing far-reaching contacts with other like-minded individuals and groups.

50. **Preparation of regional overview papers.** The coordinators of the seven regional networks have completed draft outlines of overview papers. Despite considerable variation in length and quality, they provide interesting insights into the historical, social and political complexities of land reform. They also provide useful information on the role of grass-roots organizations in each region. In particular, the papers highlight a range of efforts in the area of popular mobilization, networking and the actual implementation of specific land reform initiatives.

51. **Commissioning of thematic papers.** The Institute has also commissioned thematic papers on such questions as the historical background of well-known social movements involving the peasantry; the role of the State in promoting land reform; the market-assisted land reform approach; the management of agrarian conflicts by grass-roots organizations; and legal aid in the context of land reforms. A number of these papers are being published in the Institute's Discussion Paper series.

52. **Future programme.** Building on the work undertaken over the last 12 months, a detailed programme for future research and action has been elaborated. This programme proposes to examine the potential of mobilization and action "from below" to achieve more comprehensive land reform in different contexts. It will be necessary to explore current trends in the capacity of grass-roots organizations to promote (a) political mobilization and direct action, (b) tenurial security, (c) conflict management, (d) monitoring and defending land and basic human rights, and (e) improved post-reform production structures and livelihoods. The aim is to generate more solid information on grass-roots mobilizations and initiatives, as well as to encourage dialogue, networking, exchange of valuable information and participatory project planning, leading to improved tenure relations and rural livelihoods. Among other activities, in-depth research may be conducted in a number of developing countries and a new bulletin on land reform may be inaugurated. This programme of work would extend over a three-year period beginning in 1999.

G. Emerging National and Regional Mass Tourism in Developing Countries

53. This project explores the socio-economic, cultural and environmental implications of emerging national and regional mass tourism in the South. More specifically, the study attempts to collect, examine and disseminate detailed information on the nature, magnitude and impact of domestic and regional tourism in different socio-economic and environmental contexts and on diverse social groups. Concrete attempts to formulate policy for coping with national and regional mass tourism are also evaluated. The analysis of policy issues is especially important because national and regional tourism are likely to involve large numbers of people, thereby challenging the practice of sustainable, ecological or "managed" tourism. The project emphasizes the need to offset the more negative impacts of national and regional mass tourism through appropriate information and awareness campaigns and tourism policies that reflect the needs and interests of domestic and regional tourists, as well as their potential contribution to local employment and national output.

54. During 1998, background papers on Brazil, China, India, Mexico, Nigeria, South Africa and Thailand have been completed. The studies document the growth of national tourism and analyse its impact on the national economy, culture, political life and the environment. They also identify research gaps and suggest appropriate methodologies for possible future country studies.

H. Applied Research on the Gender Focal Point System of the International Labour Organization

55. In 1997, the Economic and Social Council recommended mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes of the United Nations system. This prompted the International Labour Organization (ILO) Office of the Special Adviser for Women Workers' Questions (FEMMES), responsible for gender mainstreaming within that organization, to look carefully at the gender focal point system. Set up in 1989 in all headquarters departments and the field structure, the gender focal point system supports efforts to mainstream gender concerns in ILO activities — ranging from standard setting and technical cooperation to research and policy advice. As part of this review process, a joint applied research project has been elaborated by UNRISD and ILO to explore the critical role that gender focal points can potentially play in gender mainstreaming and to make recommendations for strengthening the system in line with the directive of the Economic and Social Council. UNRISD's involvement in this research builds upon earlier activities undertaken as part of phase one of the Technical Cooperation and Women's Lives project.[11]

56. The research, involving desk reviews, questionnaires and in-depth interviews with ILO gender focal points, other staff and social partners, as well as regular consultative meetings with the Office of the Special Adviser for Women Workers' Questions, commenced in February 1998 and is expected to conclude in the autumn of 1998. It should contribute to current thinking about the strategy of gender mainstreaming and the kind of institutional and policy changes that might best support its implementation. In this connection, two main sets of issues are being explored.

57. **Institutional arrangements.** The research will develop a profile of the gender focal points (technical/analytical background, professional status and promotion prospects); their selection process; their structural location and linkages to FEMMES and other gender focal points; their familiarity with organization-wide gender policy and guidelines; and their responsibilities and functions (e.g. programmatic, research, policy development, human resources), with particular attention to how far these are accurately reflected in their job descriptions. In many cases, institutional arrangements, including criteria for selection and designation of functions, appear to be mainly ad hoc, raising questions about how far appropriate mechanisms have been established to support gender mainstreaming.

58. **Implementation.** The research aims to go beyond a static profile of the gender focal point system. Interviews with gender focal points and other key staff members will explore in some detail the actual processes through which gender mainstreaming takes place (or fails to occur). Recent research in other institutional contexts suggests that there may have been too much emphasis in the past on structures/guidelines as determining variables in policy formulation and implementation and not enough attention to the ways in which individual actors shape the content of policy at every level.

III. Continuing programme of research

A. War-torn Societies Project

59. When the War-torn Societies Project (WSP) was created in 1994, there was widespread disenchantment with the effectiveness of the international response to complex emergencies and post-conflict situations. In this context, UNRISD launched a collective experiment of researchers and the principal bilateral and multilateral agencies, designed to highlight the complex issues at stake and to explore innovative approaches to rebuilding war-torn societies.

60. Four years and four country projects later, WSP is nearing completion. A brief update on the project's activities in Eritrea, Mozambique, Guatemala and Somalia, as well as a description of activities at the central level, follows.

61. **Eritrea.** WSP-Eritrea came to a close on 31 October 1997. Although considerable thought had been given by internal and external actors to the establishment of a successor body, which could continue to apply the WSP approach and methodology to facilitate research in areas considered of major importance for the country's reconstruction, this did not materialize. Nevertheless Eritrean authorities expressed strong interest in the continued use of WSP methodology in Eritrea and the expansion of WSP-type activities to the Horn of Africa.

62. **Mozambique.** The final project group meeting, held on 27 April 1998, marked the close of the Mozambique project and provided a forum for participants to assess the impact of WSP in that country. They agreed that the project had provided an informal space where internal and external actors could get together and discuss strategic rebuilding issues, and had permitted an exchange of ideas between individuals and organizations which otherwise might not have taken place.

63. A new centre for policy dialogue is currently being set up to continue WSP-type activities in Mozambique. The centre's main objective will be to promote dialogue on policies and development programmes, on the basis of both classic and interactive research methods. Several modalities for collaboration with international institutions are currently being explored.

64. **Guatemala.** Research continued in Guatemala throughout 1997: by the end of November, five documents containing concrete policy recommendations on the themes of modernization and strengthening of the State had been produced; economic and social development; administration of justice and civil security; and multiculturalism.[12] These documents were the result of a multisectoral consensus-building effort, in which representatives of government institutions, political parties, academic centres, NGOs and civil society participated. The documents were reviewed and approved at the third project group meeting on 10 November 1997.

65. A report summing up the project's experience and recommendations was written for the final project group meeting[13] on 12 March 1998, which brought WSP-Guatemala to a close. It was agreed that follow-up activities would continue through academic networks and NGO projects. The Government will also consider adopting an interactive methodology in the National Development Councils System, as a mechanism to enable the Councils to fulfil their role of promoting decentralization and citizen participation in development planning processes.

66. **Somalia.** The WSP Somali programme, whose support office is located in Nairobi, has operated in three regions of north-eastern Somalia (Bari, Nugaal and Mudug) since early 1997. In August 1997, WSP researchers held a series of meetings with the principal internal and external actors in the north-east, gathering a substantial amount of information on different actors' attitudes towards various rebuilding issues. Based on the meetings, draft assessments of the key issues facing the different regions (Regional Notes) were completed.[14] These formed the basis for extensive consultations throughout north-eastern Somalia, focusing on three major themes: political, economic and social reconstruction.

67. The WSP Somali programme entered its main research phase on 15 March 1998, following a meeting in north-east Somalia attended by a wide range of actors, including representatives of regional administrations, the Somali Salvation Democratic Front, traditional leaders and international officials. Issues for further research include rebuilding basic institutions of local and regional government; social integration of refugees and internally displaced persons; the role of various actors in the provision of social services; and economic rebuilding.

68. The project is currently extending its activities beyond the north-east. Following several exploratory missions, a WSP project in the north-west (the self-proclaimed Republic of Somaliland) was established in August 1998.

69. Efforts will now focus on the development of a more autonomous local structure for the WSP Somali Programme, which is likely to take the form of an independent development-oriented organization, jointly managed by a board of internal and external actors. The emphasis will be on greater functional independence for field activities in both north-east and north-west Somalia, and later possibly in the south. The Nairobi office is expected to terminate its activities in December 1998, and its functions may then be taken over by an umbrella organization.

70. **Drawing lessons.** Over the course of the programme's final year, emphasis is being placed on documenting the experience of the War-torn Societies Project and making the lessons learned at the country level accessible to a wider audience. This exercise is organized around three tracks. First, the programme will produce a series of papers that analyse the WSP approach and assess field experience in the four study countries. These documents will be presented at a series of regional meetings to be held during October and November 1998. In addition, WSP is co-publishing relevant material produced by the country project staff. In Eritrea, Mozambique and Guatemala a "companion report" to the country assessment is being compiled and will be published in late 1998.

71. To complement these core papers based on concrete WSP experiences, two thematic papers have also been written, one on the macroeconomic aspects of post-war rebuilding and the other on the role of women in post-conflict situations.[15] The project has also continued to produce its newsletter, The Challenge of Peace, as well as its Research Updates[16] and to regularly update its Web site. In October 1997, a database containing references to and

summaries of over 1,500 documents on post-conflict reconstruction was made available on the Internet.

72. Under Track Two of its dissemination strategy, WSP is working closely with policy makers and operational actors to translate project lessons into tools for improved policy formulation and operational implementation — tools such as policy recommendations, operational guidelines and training manuals.

73. A Track Two workshop was held in Addis Ababa from 30 March to 3 April 1998, bringing together representatives from all four WSP country projects to discuss experiences and lessons in a comparative perspective and to explore their relevance for the Horn of Africa with key actors from the region. A second Track Two workshop was then held with senior representatives from international organizations and donor agencies in Bossy, Geneva, in late June 1998 to review and discuss selected WSP lessons in the light of participants' own experience and to begin translating them into practical tools to improve external assistance to war-torn societies.

74. Finally, under Track Three of the dissemination programme, the project will produce brochures, articles, press releases and audio-visual products that can be targeted to selected audiences. There will be a mailing campaign and a series of regional conferences in Europe and North America over a period of several weeks in late 1998.

B. Vulnerability and Coping Strategies in Cambodia

75. This project consisted of three independent studies. The first dealt with issues of food security, the second with psycho-social vulnerability[17] and the third with the role of international and national institutions in the transition to democracy and a market economy following years of war, authoritarian rule and international isolation.

76. **Food security.** Field work for the study on food security, coordinated by the Cambodian Development Resource Institute (CDRI), was completed in mid-1997, and the final project conference was held in Phnom Penh the following October. This two-day meeting, where draft papers summarizing the main findings of the study were presented, was attended by approximately 90 people from government ministries, NGOs, research centres and multilateral organizations.[18] Presentations were also made by the Under-Secretaries of State for Agriculture, Rural Development and Health, as well as by several representatives of NGOs and multilateral agencies who considered the policy implications of the study.

77. These and other participants noted that the study had not only provided important baseline data on household food security in Cambodia and played a useful role in training Cambodian researchers, but that it had also stimulated considerable discussion and debate in policy-making circles. It was important to know, for example, that household food security was threatened because many households were having to divert resources from food-related expenditures to health, in a context where health conditions and public health services had deteriorated. And it was also useful to remember that food security policy should go beyond a narrow focus on rice production, consumption and related calorie intake to consider the provision of health services, clean water, sanitation, education, income generation and access to land.

78. The final report on food security is due by late-1998 and will be published in both English and Khmer in early 1999.

79. **Transition and development strategy**. Although the study on transition and development strategies was completed in early 1997, a number of dramatic events in Cambodia during the subsequent period made it essential to update the final report before publication. The author agreed to do so and returned to Cambodia in September. The revised report[19] will be co-published with Brookings Institution Press in 1999.

C. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development

1. Advancing the Social Agenda: Two Years after Copenhagen

80. UNRISD has been, and continues to be, deeply involved in the work of the World Summit for Social Development. During the preparatory process of 1994–1995, the Institute organized two conferences at United Nations Headquarters in New York (the first on ethnic conflict and the second on economic restructuring and social policy).[20] These events coincided with official Preparatory Committee meetings and were well attended by members of official delegations, NGOs and scholars. In addition, a series of UNRISD Briefing Papers and Occasional Papers, providing analysis of current social issues, were made widely available to participants in the preparatory process. These can now be consulted on-line, through the Institute Web site. In addition, the Institute prepared an influential report for the World

Summit for Social Development, entitled States of Disarray: The Social Effects of Globalization, which has subsequently been translated into six languages and is now going into its third edition in English.

81. At the Copenhagen conference, UNRISD sponsored an international conference on rethinking social development,[21] attended by more than 1,000 people; a seminar on the future of the welfare state,[22] held jointly with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and two events in the NGO Forum, including a round table on cities in crisis: responses from the grassroots and pavement.

82. In the period since the Summit, UNRISD has organized two large public conferences in Geneva, both timed to coincide with the European meetings of the Economic and Social Council. The first event (After the Social Summit: Implementing the Programme of Action) was held in the Palais des Nations on 4 July 1995, and the second (Advancing the Social Agenda: Two Years after Copenhagen) on 9 and 10 July 1997.[23]

83. In both follow-up conferences, UNRISD attempted to encourage the exchange of up-to-date information on major initiatives taken by Governments, international agencies and civil society organizations to further the Programme of Action of the Summit. And at the second event, a special effort was made to highlight promising approaches in such fields as mobilizing resources for social development; learning from "successful" attempts to provide universal social services; promoting harmony in multi-ethnic societies; dealing with the legacy of hatred in countries torn by civil war; and developing community-based approaches to urban social problems.

84. Discussions on these questions at the July 1997 meeting made it clear that, while certain initiatives are indeed leading to positive results at the local or national level, responses at the international level are not sufficient for these to gain any real momentum on a global scale. Global economic liberalization poses enormous challenges to those who are working to reduce unemployment and poverty and to promote social solidarity. In the face of an often unfavourable economic environment, NGOs confront the dilemma of how best to further their own programmes of action. If they seek to expand or "scale up" their efforts, they risk becoming the mirror image of large, bureaucratic institutions, with all the attendant problems of accountability and effectiveness. If they become partners of international financial institutions, they risk co-optation. Yet, if they limit themselves only to the local or regional scale and refuse important outside resources, their efforts are likely to remain at best fragmented and possibly insignificant.

85. It was the opinion of many participants that organizations working for broad-based social development must improve their capacity to propose and support economic policies that will reduce social costs. This means familiarizing themselves with areas that are (for most of them) new and complex and (in the case of international NGOs) learning how to engage as credible and independent actors with international bodies usually outside their traditional sphere of interest, such as the World Trade Organization, the Group of Seven and subregional trade groupings. They must also attempt to revitalize the Economic and Social Council and the Commission for Social Development — organizations that have the obligation to play a major role in the follow-up to the Summit.

86. At the same time, participants at the conference agreed that a crucial element in strengthening the opportunities for civil society organizations to interact with intergovernmental institutions is achieving timely access to their own government negotiators. This is, in the final analysis, likely to be far more effective than mass accreditation to large international organizations; and in fact, the tendency to endlessly expand the access of national or local civil society organizations to intergovernmental institutions may weaken their overall legitimacy and effectiveness. Among other things, there is a risk that efforts to preserve and develop responsive Governments might be weakened if it were implied that civil society organizations selection processes in international organizations were on a par with general and democratic elections in individual country settings.

87. In the period leading up to the United Nations review of the World Summit for Social Development in 2000 (the "Copenhagen Plus Five" initiative), UNRISD plans to provide other opportunities for discussing and analysing such issues.

2. Research, Exchange and Action on Social Development in Sub-Saharan Africa

88. This project seeks to support efforts by NGOs in francophone sub-Saharan Africa to ensure that the recommendations of the Social Summit are integrated into the design and implementation of national social development plans. The research programme has two main dimensions: the development of guidelines for the identification and measurement of social development and the examination of interaction between central public actors and civil society groups involved in social development to facilitate their collaboration.

89. Owing to the difficult political situation in several participating countries in Central Africa, a modified work

programme was elaborated which involved the preparation of "think pieces" by small research teams of NGOs in Cameroon and Gabon. Draft reports were submitted by December 1997 on NGO relations with their social partners in Cameroon and on the determinants of poverty in Gabon.[24]

90. In West Africa, work progressed on a programme developed at the March 1997 regional workshop. Two priority themes were identified at that meeting — the elaboration of modalities for effective collaboration around jointly defined social development goals, including an emphasis on contractual arrangements that clearly specify division of labour and responsibility; and the development of suitable tools for measuring progress in social development, in particular in urban settlements. Following the meeting, a number of background methodology papers and guidelines were prepared by the project coordinator and distributed to the working groups to help focus the research.[25] A think piece on the integration of migrants in Dakar and Bamako was also prepared by the West African working group.[26]

3. Community Perspectives on Urban Governance

91. This project aims to identify promising instances of, and constraints on, collaboration between community-based/volunteer organizations and local governments in designing, implementing and evaluating social and economic policy at the local level. Co-sponsored by United Nations Volunteers (UNV), the programme began in late 1995 as a follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development. Since then, 20 case studies have been conducted in Chicago, United States of America, Johannesburg, South Africa, Lima, Peru, Mumbai, India, and São Paulo, Brazil, along with related research in east St. Louis, United States of America, Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam and Jinja, Uganda. An additional set of brief case studies in six Chinese cities was carried out in 1997 in preparation for the UNRISD workshop on "Comparative Perspectives on Decentralized Governance in a Globalizing World", held in Shanghai in October 1997.

92. The purpose of the Shanghai meeting was twofold: to disseminate the results of the studies completed earlier in the project and to better understand how Chinese cities are attempting to come to grips with the stresses and strains caused by rapid rural-urban migration and other compound effects of deepening economic and administrative reforms. The meeting brought together urban planners, officials and scholars from six large and medium-sized Chinese cities, researchers involved in the UNRISD/UNV project and observers from foundations, international NGOs and multilateral development agencies for the three days of discussion and site visits. Participants sought to identify the extent to which Chinese cities had begun responding to pressures on physical and social infrastructure by opening up new channels of participation in decision-making processes and to gauge whether such changes had begun to affect the living and working conditions of residents.

93. On the third day of the meeting, participants reflected on the state of and prospects for participation in planning and decision-making in Chinese cities. Almost all agreed that simply informing residents of plans or taking opinion surveys did not constitute participation. Residents should have an active role in decision-making and implementation of policies, either through their neighbourhood or street committees or other organized bodies. Participants felt that it would be useful to experiment with some of the participatory techniques that cities in other countries are using and particularly to understand the roles and potential of NGOs in building the capacity of community groups and local authorities to undertake bottom-up community development initiatives. They also recognized the importance of institutionalizing participation in planning by incorporating appropriate legal mechanisms in planning statutes.

94. A report (in Chinese) of the meeting has been prepared and distributed and discussions are under way with foundations, Chinese scholars and government officials to decide how best to proceed with new research on popular participation in urban governance in China.[27]

95. A paper synthesizing the case studies and local-level dialogues undertaken as part of the project in Chicago has been published as an UNRISD Discussion Paper and another on Lima is forthcoming.[28]

IV. Publications and dissemination

A. Publications

96. UNRISD publishes books, monographs, Discussion Papers, Occasional Papers and newsletters. Co-publication agreements with commercial publishers provide the opportunity to reach a wide audience through professionally produced books. Publications produced in-house provide flexibility in determining format, pricing and distribution policies. During the biennium 1997–1998, 14 books were co-published with commercial or academic presses and three monographs were printed by UNRISD. In addition, the Institute published 17 Discussion and 8 Occasional Papers. UNRISD News appeared twice yearly in English, French and

Spanish. Two project newsletters (FOCUS on Integrating Gender into the Politics of Development and The Challenge of Peace) were also distributed.

97. The UNRISD report for the World Summit for Social Development, entitled States of Disarray: The Social Effects of Globalization, was originally published in 1995 in English, French and Spanish. During 1997–1998, it was translated into Arabic, Chinese, Korean and Russian and distributed by publishers in those language regions. The English edition of the book is now in its third printing.

B. Dissemination

98. UNRISD dissemination channels include conferences and workshops, specialized and mass media, direct mail and distribution agreements. In addition, a special effort has been made over the past biennium to reach a wider and more diverse audience through the redesign and improvement of the Institute's World Wide Web site (http://www.unrisd.org).

99. UNRISD ON-LINE is now divided into seven main sections. *About UNRISD* contains answers to a list of frequently asked questions, provides the user with a brief history of the Institute and outlines the distinctive research approach of UNRISD. *Research Programme* provides short overviews of all current and recent research projects. This section also includes on-line versions of the Institute's last three annual progress reports. *Global Conferences* highlights Institute conferences on issues of social development. In the future this space will also be used to promote and publicize conferences more effectively. *Publications* includes a revised and reorganized publications catalogue, easy access to an alphabetical list of on-line publications and *UNRISD News* Numbers 13 through 17. *Policy Briefs* contains documents of particular relevance to policy makers and others seeking concise information on social development issues. *Viewpoints* contains signed "think pieces" on social development issues, printed in *UNRISD News*. *Media Information* includes recent press releases, selected reviews of UNRISD publications and articles on UNRISD work.

100. Because many of the people interested in UNRISD research come from the developing world, questions remain regarding the World Wide Web's reach into areas still largely "unconnected". In March 1998, visits to the site were distributed by region as follows: North America, 60 per cent; Western Europe, 13 per cent; Asia, 10 per cent; ".org" addresses, 3 per cent (these are not region or country specific); Latin America, 3 per cent; Australia and New Zealand, 2 per cent; Africa, 0.4 per cent; Eastern Europe, 0.3 per cent; and the Middle East, 0.2 per cent. To mitigate this problem, the new site has been copied from the World Wide Web and made available by e-mail for people without access to an Internet browser. It will soon be available on diskette for those without e-mail access.

101. By late 1998, 73 full-text documents (Discussion and Occasional Papers, as well as conference reports and newsletters) were available on the UNRISD Web site and could be downloaded without permission for use by interested readers. In addition, the Web site of the UNRISD programme on Information Technologies and Social Development contained seven full-text papers and that of the War-torn Societies Project, six.

102. Dissemination by post is supported by the UNRISD mailing list, containing approximately 9,000 addresses, of which half are in the developing world. Almost all entries in the mailing list receive *UNRISD News* free of charge. Approximately 400 automatically receive Discussion Papers, Occasional Papers and conference reports as well. UNRISD has exchange agreements with 95 institutes, journals and organizations around the world. In addition, UNRISD receives approximately 20 to 25 requests for information and publications each day from NGOs, research institutes, government ministries, students, universities and libraries.

103. A general agreement was established in 1998 to list Institute publications in the well-known bibliographic data base, Public Affairs Information Service (PAIS). UNRISD publications also continue to be regularly used for academic courses and for training in institutions around the world. They are displayed at international scientific conferences, NGO events, book fairs, national seminars and workshops. And press releases on each publication are distributed to approximately 300 media contacts.

V. Consultancy and advisory work

104. In addition to their ongoing research and administrative activities, UNRISD staff members are increasingly called upon to act in a range of advisory roles for United Nations agencies, multilateral and bilateral organizations, Governments, NGOs, research institutes and universities. Work of this nature provides UNRISD with opportunities to make substantive contributions to the thinking and programmes of other institutions and groups, while staff members benefit from the exchange of ideas and are also able to network, identify potential researchers and explore funding opportunities. Over the period 1997–1998, the Institute advised the Joint United Nations Programme on

HIV/AIDS, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, UNDP, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Office for Project Services, the World Health Organization, the Canadian International Development Agency, IFAD, the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Australian Research Council, the Swiss National Science Foundation, the Structural Adjustment Participatory Review Network of the World Bank, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the World Wide Fund for Nature and Transparency International, among others.

105. In late spring 1997 the Executive Committee for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat requested that UNRISD undertake a review of the following United Nations social "flagship" reports: *Report on the World Social Situation, World Population Monitoring, World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, The World's Women: Trends and Statistics, The State of World Population, The State of the World's Refugees, The State of the World's Children and the Human Development Report*.

106. The terms of reference asked that UNRISD analyse the objectives of the different reports; identify their target audiences, consider the value added of each, assess areas of overlap or inconsistency and suggest feasible changes in their orientation. The completed review was submitted to the Executive Committee for Economic and Social Affairs in December 1997.

VI. Internship programme

107. The internship programme provides a limited number of outstanding graduate students from around the world the opportunity to gain valuable experience in an international research institute. Interns are selected on the basis of their academic experience and interests and must have a strong recommendation from their university. Students selected for the unpaid internships spend a minimum of two months at UNRISD assisting project coordinators in developing project proposals, compiling annotated bibliographies, helping to organize research seminars, translating correspondence and carrying out various tasks in the Reference Centre.

108. Over the period 1997–1998, students from Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Pakistan, Peru, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and the former Yugoslavia participated in the programme. A small number of interns continued to contribute to the Institute's work as full-time research assistants after their internships were completed.

VII. Financial situation

109. Although part of the United Nations system, UNRISD finances all of its activities by voluntary contributions from Governments, international development agencies and foundations. In 1997–1998, the core funding of the Institute was provided by Denmark, Finland, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. Twenty-six bilateral and multilateral agencies and foundations supported the research programme of the Institute.

110. UNRISD expenditures in 1997 grew by 6.4 per cent over the previous year and are expected to expand by another 6 per cent in 1998, reaching a total of US$ 5.36 million. Following a favourable evaluation of the Institute by the Nordic countries in 1997, Sweden renewed its three-year grant. Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands and Norway increased their core contributions considerably in 1998.

Notes

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[4] Paula Uimonen, "Addressing the Information Gap", in *OnTheInternet*, the journal of the Internet Society, November 1997.

[5] Jocelyn Kynch, *Provisioners and Reproducers: Gender Roles and Nutritional Outcomes in a North Indian Village*, mimeo, March 1998.

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[7] Ruhi Saith and Barbara Harriss-White, *Gender Sensitivity of Well-being Indicators*, mimeo, March 1998.

[8] Matthew Lockwood and Ann Whitehead, *Rescuing Gender from the Poverty Gap: World Bank Poverty Assessments and Gender*, mimeo, April 1998.

[9] Jayati Ghosh, *Assessing Poverty Alleviation Strategies for their Impact on Women: A Study with Special Reference to*

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[12] WSP-Guatemala, *Decentralization of Decision-Making within the State*, mimeo, September 1997; WSP-Guatemala, *Action Plan for Tax Policy*, mimeo, September 1997; WSP-Guatemala, *Action Plan for Rural Development*, mimeo, November 1997; WSP-Guatemala, *Proposal for Action in the Field of Public Security and Citizen's Participation*, mimeo, November 1997; and WSP-Guatemala, *Constitutional Reforms Related to the Agreement on the Identity and Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, mimeo, August 1997.

[13] WSP-Guatemala, *Guatemala, La Construccion de la Paz*, mimeo, March 1998.

[14] WSP Somali Programme, *North-East Somalia Regional Reports: Bari Region, Nugaal Region, North Medug Region*, mimeo, December 1997.

[15] Gilles Carbonnier, *Conflict, Postwar Rebuilding and the Economy: A Review of the Literature*, Occasional Paper No. 2, WSP, March 1998; Brigitte Sørensen, *Women and Post-Conflict Reconstruction: Issues and Sources*, Occasional Paper No. 3, WSP, June 1998.

[16] WSP, *The Challenge of Peace*, Vol. 5, July 1997; WSP, *Research Update*, No. 5, October 1997.

[17] The final report of the study on psycho-social vulnerability was published in 1997. See Jo Boyden and Sara Gibbs, *Children of War: Responses to Psycho-Social Distress in Cambodia*, UNRISD/INTRAC, Geneva.

[18] K.A.S. Murshid, *The Status of Food Security*, draft paper prepared for the CDRI/UNRISD Rural Food Security Conference, 7–8 October 1997, Phnom Penh, mimeo, CDRI and John P. McAndrew, *Interdependence in Household Livelihood Strategies in Two Cambodian Villages*, draft paper prepared for the CDRI/UNRISD Rural Food Security Conference, 7–8 October 1997, Phnom Penh, mimeo, CDRI.

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[23] *After the Social Summit: Implementing the Programme of Action*, Report of the UNRISD Seminar (Geneva, 4 July 1995), UNRISD, Geneva, September 1995; and *Advancing the Social Agenda: Two Years after Copenhagen*, Report of the UNRISD Public Meeting (Geneva, 9–10 July 1997), UNRISD, Geneva, November 1997.

[24] Working group from Cameroon, *Enquête, réflexions et propositions sur les relations entre les ONG et leurs partenaires*, mimeo, 1997, and Working Group from Gabon, *Réflexion sur la pauvreté au Gabon à partir de l'enquête budget consommation*, mimeo, 1997.

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[26] Working Group from West Africa, *Réflexion à partir des enquêtes sur l'insertion des migrants à Dakar*, mimeo, 1997.

[27] Quanqiuhua de Shijiezhong Jinxing Fenquan Guihuaguanli de Zhanwang: Guoji Taolunhui Zongjie Baogao, mimeo, February 1998.

[28] David C. Ranney, Patricia A. Wright and Tingwei Zhang, *Citizens, Local Government and the Development of Chicago's Near South Side*, Discussion Paper No. 90, November 1997. Jaime Joseph, *Organizaciones comunitarias de base y gobiernos locales en Lima, Peru*, forthcoming.